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United States Government & Politics

Weekly Current Events: 4.3.23

“[Donald Trump Indicted by Grand Jury,” ABC-Nightline, 3.31.23 (YouTube 10:17).](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqPBHusXqdU)

1. What government indicted Donald Trump?
2. Who is Stormy Daniels and what is her relevance to the case?
3. What money is at issue here, and what crime(s) was allegedly committed?
4. How has Mr. Trump responded to the indictment?
5. What charges outside of New York might Trump be facing in the future? How do they compare to this case?
6. How have Republicans responded to the New York indictment?
7. What is an indictment, and how is an indictment meant to prevent an overzealous prosecutor?
8. How might the difference between comments made on cable TV or via social media and comments made in a courtroom impact events in this case?
9. How does federalism result in non-coordination on this charge and any other potential charges?

[“Russia Arrests *Wall Street Journal* Reporter on Spying Charge,” Associated Press, 3.30.23](https://apnews.com/article/wall-street-journal-reported-russia-arrested-cd511a94a3fe0ce604df6648ef5adec5)

1. Who is Evan Gershkovich and why is he detained in Russia?
2. What has Russia said about him?
3. What was his employer the Wall Street Journal’s response?
4. What did the White House say about the reporter’s detention?
5. What have US-Russian relations been lately, and how might this be relevant?
6. What other US-Russian prisoners and prison swaps are mentioned?
7. Do you believe a prison swap is likely in this case? Why or why not?
8. Why does Russia engage in this kind of behavior?

[Sprunt & Davis, “Senate Votes to Repeal Iraq War Authorization,” NPR, 3.29.23.](https://www.npr.org/2023/03/29/1165581083/aumf-iraq-war-senate)

1. What was the noted Senate vote about, and what was the numeric vote differential?
2. How might an Authorization to Use Force differ from a declaration of war?
3. For this bill to become law, it must still pass the House and then go to the president’s desk. What is the outlook on those events happening?
4. Do you think it is a good idea to end these resolutions? Why or why not?